

**Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Warden Parish Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 commencing at 7pm in Newbrough Town Hall**

**Those Present:** Cllr S Robson (Chairman), Cllr SJ Heminsley, Cllr J Martin, Cllr D Liddle, Cllr L Kay, Cllr WJ Foot (part of meeting)

**In Attendance:** C Miller (Clerk) A Azocar-Nevin (County Cllr), three members of the public

**2025/108 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr K Youngs, Cllr G Charlton

**2025/109 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllr's L Kay and S Robson declared an interest in the grant request from Forum Cinema Hexham Ltd.

**2025/110 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

**2025/117/07 Senior Citizens Annual trip. Members to consider correspondence received in relation to funding the trip**

**Item moved up the agenda.**

Resident advised that over the last 14 years a pensioners bus trip had been arranged once a year and financed by the Tom Benson Trust. However the Trust had advised they were unable to fund future trips. Warden and Newbrough Parish Councils had subsequently been contacted to ask if they could jointly fund the trip. A proposal had been suggested for Newbrough Town Hall to act as the constituted group to enable funds to be granted from the two Parish Councils. The estimated total cost of the trip would be £600 - £700.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to fund up to £350 for the 2026 trip.

**2025/115/03 Members to consider use of green belt land in the parish**

**Item to be moved up the agenda.**

Resident concerned about a used car lot that had appeared in the parish on agricultural fields next to the river. Cars were also being left in the joint communal turning circle, however this is a private road. A car event had been held and it was anticipated that this would be a regular occurrence.

The matter of footpath maintenance in the same area had been raised at a previous Parish Council meeting, with maintenance having since been carried out.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to contact County Council Planning Development in relation to use of the green belt.

**2025/111 Minutes of the Extra Ordinary and Ordinary meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed that the minutes of the previous meetings held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September were a true record.

**2025/112 Allotments.**

There were no matters to consider.

**2025/113 Community litter pick**

Next community litter pick date to be agreed January 2026.

**2025/114 Roads/footpaths/village maintenance**

Potholes evident on footpath in front of petrol station.

**RESOLVED:**

CLlr D Liddle to report via County Council reporting system Fix My Street.

**2025/114/01 Progress regarding the reduction in speeding traffic through the village**

It had been 18 months since a petition had been submitted to the County Council in relation to traffic management at the Paper Mill. The petition had been considered at a County Council committee meeting where it had been agreed a report would be provided in respect of a traffic calming scheme, to include a reduction in the speed limit to 30 or 40mph. The County CLlr advised she had requested this to be placed on the local Transport Plan 2026 to 2029, but had been informed by the County Council that the scheme had already been included within the current LTP.

**RESOLVED:**

County CLlr to seek further details as to when the scheme would be actioned.

Clerk to contact County Council should further details not be received.

**2025/115 Planning**

**2025/115/01 Planning Application received**

No planning applications had been received.

Parish Council objection had been submitted in respect to the larger Solar Farm application.

Further information was awaited in relation to the smaller application.

**RESOLVED:**

Clerk to ask Planning Officer if there was a definitive date for when both proposals would be considered by the County Council.

**2025/115/02 Planning Application approval received**

No planning approvals had been received.

**2025/116 Reports**

**2025/116/01 Northumberland County Council**

Concerns had been raised about a pinch point in relation to the proposals to widen the footpath at Newbrough School, however County Council had advised signage is not required, and there would be enough width for two vehicles to pass safely.

Network Rail had advised with regards to Moss Cottages that further investigation had identified the potential simple fix was not possible, and for budgetary reasons a repair could not be progressed this financial year, but the situation would be

reviewed over the winter. With regards to the issue near Warden level crossing & the Paper Mill, as this is downstream from the level crossing, it isn't something NR should be involved in resolving, although it does affect NR's ability to deal with water coming into the system from the highway. NR believe the council should be liaising with the landowner to rectify problems.

County Cllr had met with M.P. who had agreed to assist with road safety issues.

County Cllr had requested action to tackle speeding traffic on the A68 bordering the Humshaugh ward be included in the Local Transport Plan 2026-2029.

**2025/116/02 Sportsfield Association/Newbrough First School. Members to receive update regarding repair/establishing the MUGA as a sustainable community/school facility**

MUGA had been repaired / resurfaced through funding via the current and former County Cllr's, Warden and Newbrough Parish Councils, and a grant from the Greenrigg Wind Farm. A plaque to show how the equipment had been funded would be beneficial.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.Members acknowledged Cllr WJ Foot for the work he had put into the project.
- 2.Cllr D Liddle to further information plaque

**2025/117 Financial Matters**

**2025/117/01 Members to approve the following payments**

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NETT	VAT	GROSS
Newbrough & Warden Sportsfield Association	Grant	£1177	NIL	
Newbrough Town Hall	Rent of meeting room	£30.00	NIL	
HMRC	PAYE, direct debit 22/10/25	£148.23	NIL	
DH Charlton	Village maintenance	£445	NIL	
B Gustard	Village maintenance	£445	NI	
C Miller	September, October Salary Expenses	£526.04 £27.90	NIL	
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Day Wreath	£50 resolved.	NIL	

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.Members approved the payments
- 2.Cllr S Robson to lay Parish Council wreath on Remembrance Day.

**2025/117/02 Defibrillator. Members to receive update on training in the use of defib**

Training not yet arranged. One set of pads would require replacing in due course.

**2025/117/03 Members to receive update on Parish Council website / email requirements**

The Clerk advised the website would be created early 2026, with the present site to remain live until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

**2025/117/04 Members to consider grant requests from Sport Tynedale, Forum Cinema Hexham Ltd**

Two grant applications were considered.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to fund £60 to Sport Tynedale and £100 to Forum Cinema Hexham Ltd for events held in Newbrough Town Hall.

**2025/117/05 Budget and precept requirements 2026-2027. Members to consider first draft of requirements 2026-2027**

Members considered the first draft of budget and precept requirements 2026-2027.

Budget and precept to be confirmed January 2026

**2025/117/06 Deposit Account. Members to consider opening savings account with HSBC.**

Members considered opening an on-line savings account.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to set up an easy access on-line savings account.

**2025/118 The Railway Inn**

Nothing to discuss.

**2025/119 Crises Management. Members to receive update regarding protocol for holding resident details**

CLRs should revisit those residents identified as requiring contact during times of crises and confirm their current situation.

**2025/120 Information plaques for Parish Council assets. Members to consider options**

CLr D Liddle to bring proposals to January 2026 meeting.

**2025/121 Freemanship presentation. Members to approve scroll inscription and presentation arrangements**

Members considered scroll inscription and presentation arrangements.

**RESOLVED:**

1. Members agreed to present the scroll at the Christmas Fayre. As the Chairman would not be available on that date, Vice Chairman should present the scroll to D Bowman.

2. The Clerk to contact Newbrough Hall Committee who were organising the Christmas Fayre.

3. The Clerk to contact the Vice Chairman, CLr G Charlton.

4. CLr S Robson to ask D Bowman if he will be able to attend the Christmas Fayre.

**2025/122 I.T. Policy. Members to consider adopting draft policy**

The Clerk advised due to changes to the Annual Governance and Accounting Return in relation to data protection issues, all Councils must adopt an I.T. policy.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to adopt the I.T. policy.

**2025/123 Publication Scheme. Members are asked to adopt model ICO publication scheme**

The Clerk advised due to changes to the Annual Governance and Accounting Return in relation to data protection issues, all Councils must adopt the current model ICO publication scheme

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to adopt the model publication scheme.

**2025/124 Safeguarding Policy. Members to review current document**

Members reviewed the safeguarding policy.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed the safeguarding policy was sufficient for the present needs of the council.

**2025/125 Northumberland County Council Community Governance Review. Members to consider response to initial consultation**

The Clerk advised the County Council were obliged to occasionally undertake a community governance review.

**RESOLVED:**

The Council completed the initial short questionnaire from the County Council and agreed amalgamating with a neighbouring Parish Council would be of benefit.

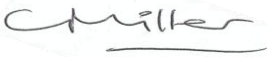
**2025/126 Urgent Business/Items for next agenda**

Lack of flood wardens in the parish of concern – Environment Agency to have table at Christmas Fair. Item to be added to next agenda. Boatside Inn tenant advised oil patches were leading to a dirt problem at the play area. Clerk to contact Playdale for advice.

**2025/127 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Warden Parish Council will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025 commencing 7pm in Newbrough Town Hall

The meeting closed at 840pm



Claire Miller, Clerk to Warden Parish Council

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
Defibrillator(s)	Training to be held in due course.
Reduction in speed limit, Hardhaugh	County Cllr to confirm when reduction in speed limit would be actioned
Information plaques for PC assets	Cllr Liddle to provide prototypes at next meeting, and research information plaque for MUGA
Solar farm planning applications	Clerk to enquire when solar farm planning applications will be considered by County Council
Next litter pick	Litter pick to be organised Spring 2026.
Freemanship	<p>The Clerk to contact Newbrough Hall Committee who were organising the Christmas Fayre, and Cllr G Charlton who should present the scroll</p> <p>Cllr S Robson to ask D Bowman if he will be able to attend the Christmas Fayre.</p>
Use of green belt	Clerk to forward concerns relating to a used car located within the green belt. Cllr S Robson to provide plan and photographs.
Play area, issues with historical oil spillage	The Clerk to contact play area installer for advice on cleansing play area surface